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U.S. A-800

ACA

Chief, Foreign Division W
Attention: []
Chief of Station, Vienna

25 September 1951

Operational
Father Count MONTJOIE, S.J.

Reference: MAS-A-788; MAS-A-811

1. With the approval of [] [] [] called on Father (Count) MONTJOIE (S.J.), on 19 September 1951 at the Jesuit Monastery in Graz. His purpose was to determine the current contacts of this controversial individual and to assess his operational potential. [] [] presented himself at the "Stiegenkirche" at 0800 hours and since several people were waiting to see Father MONTJOIE, [] left a message with the janitor of the monastery, to the effect that someone from Salzburg wanted to see Father MONTJOIE and would return at 1800 hours.
2. When [] returned at the indicated time, he was very kindly received by Father MONTJOIE, who invited [] to his room in the monastery and, despite the [] hour, treated [] to a glass of brandy. Almost as soon as [] had sat down, the Father remarked that his friend UHAR had recommended a young American to him, who wanted to study at Graz University, and that he thought that [] was the person referred to by UHAR. [] replied that he knew of UHAR, that he was indeed an American employed in Salzburg, but unfortunately not the one UHAR had recommended to MONTJOIE.
3. [] then told MONTJOIE that he had first heard of him in 1947 when he was reported to be engaged in defeating Soviet officers in Vienna, that he had later settled in Innsbruck where he worked for the FIS, and that he also had some connection with UHAR. MONTJOIE listened politely and then said that it was incorrect to say that he had defeated Soviet officers, when he had merely been helping refugees to escape from the Soviet orbit. He added that during the war he had helped refugees to escape from the Nazis, and that, in fact, he had met UHAR at a time when the latter was wanted by the Gestapo and his life was "hanging on a silk thread". MONTJOIE left Vienna for Innsbruck in 1948, when he learned that the Soviets had caught on to his activities. At that time the Jesuit Order petitioned the Soviet authorities for more space for their college in Salzburg, Lower Austria, and a Soviet officer commented that as long as the Jesuit Order sheltered subversive [] [] [] MONTJOIE, and tolerated their activities, the Jesuits in Austria could not expect any favors from the Soviets.

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4. While in Vienna MONTJOIE maintained contact with CIO and succeeded in getting a number of refugees, mostly Hungarians, evacuated through CIO channels. While he found CIO officers personally likeable and pleasant, he did not form a favorable opinion of their modus operandi, which seemed unduly bureaucratic. He also came to the conclusion that CIO attached undue importance to "bi-weekly reports and similar nonsense". Later, in Innsbruck, MONTJOIE entered into contact with the FIS, but this contact tapered off when MONTJOIE transferred to Graz in 1949. MONTJOIE, however, still visits Innsbruck every three months or so, and maintains social contact with French officials.
5. Returning to his association with URAGE, MONTJOIE stated that he had known him well for a number of years, that he was aware of his intelligence activities on behalf of the U.S. and that, in intelligence matters he was "married to URAGE". MONTJOIE explained that, as a priest, he could not be full-time intelligence agent, but that URAGE was in the habit of seeking his advice on personalities and intelligence plans and that he, in turn, passed on to URAGE anything he deemed of intelligence interest. Some time ago, URAGE asked him to procure a girl secretary for him, and MONTJOIE recommended a girl to him, who is still employed by URAGE. MONTJOIE commented that he originally had met URAGE through the latter's Austrian wife and that he also knew URAGE's brother-in-law.
6. When [] pointed out to MONTJOIE that U.S. interest in Hungarian matters had recently increased and that anything he might have to say on Hungarians in Graz would be appreciated, MONTJOIE politely replied that he had reported everything to URAGE in the past and that URAGE had informed him on the importance the Americans were attaching to a penetration of Hungary. MONTJOIE added that, in his opinion, URAGE was making good progress in his Hungarian work and had several good sources in Graz. After the exchange of a few more polite words, [] took his leave from Father MONTJOIE.
7. The close relationship between URAGE and MONTJOIE, as recounted by the latter came as a surprise to [] and []. Had it been known previously that MONTJOIE was "married to URAGE", [] would not have called on MONTJOIE. Regarding the Father's statement about the young American student who had been recommended to him by URAGE, it is a plausible inference that URAGE was referring to []. As to the Father's relations with the FIS, a recent [] report (NAS-A-751, 752) linking MONTJOIE with suspected FIS agents in the International Student Fund, tends to contradict MONTJOIE's statement that his contact with the FIS has tapered off. Finally, there is a possibility that MONTJOIE might have penetrated URAGE for the French. We will attempt to obtain additional information on the URAGE-MONTJOIE relationship through [].
- [] comment: The American student planning to attend the Graz University was indeed []. When questioned, [] stated that he had been liaison man to URAGE on behalf of the old Slipper office in Frankfurt prior to the days of []. A social contact still exists and [] had asked URAGE for a reference in Graz, connected with the University, who could help him get settled. URAGE provided a letter of introduction to Father MONTJOIE which

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□ still has not delivered. A more detailed debriefing of □ on the Subject of UHACH will follow and it is hoped that it will help us get a clearer picture of UHACH's personality and potential operational value to the Salzburg base. (See WAS-A-011).

We are really surprised at the moment loss of contact between UHACH and Father MURPHY. In discussing the □ case, □ had repeatedly stated that the contact between UHACH and MURPHY was through IRVING and that with the dropping of the latter, the contact had ceased. □ always labeled MURPHY as being primarily a French IS man. The case merely illustrates the need for a completely new assessment of the UHACH case since operational reporting available to us to date does not appear to give a full picture. The submission of UHACH's biography by MURPHY is particularly worthy of consideration from a security point of view.

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